

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
18 April 2002 (18.04.2002)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 02/031629 A3**

(51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: **G08B 13/14**,  
H04Q 7/00, G07B 15/02, G06F 17/60

09/854,722	14 May 2001 (14.05.2001)	US
60/303,994	5 July 2001 (05.07.2001)	US
60/304,017	9 July 2001 (09.07.2001)	US
60/305,686	16 July 2001 (16.07.2001)	US
60/323,514	19 September 2001 (19.09.2001)	US

(21) International Application Number: PCT/US01/42563

(22) International Filing Date: 9 October 2001 (09.10.2001)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

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(30) Priority Data:

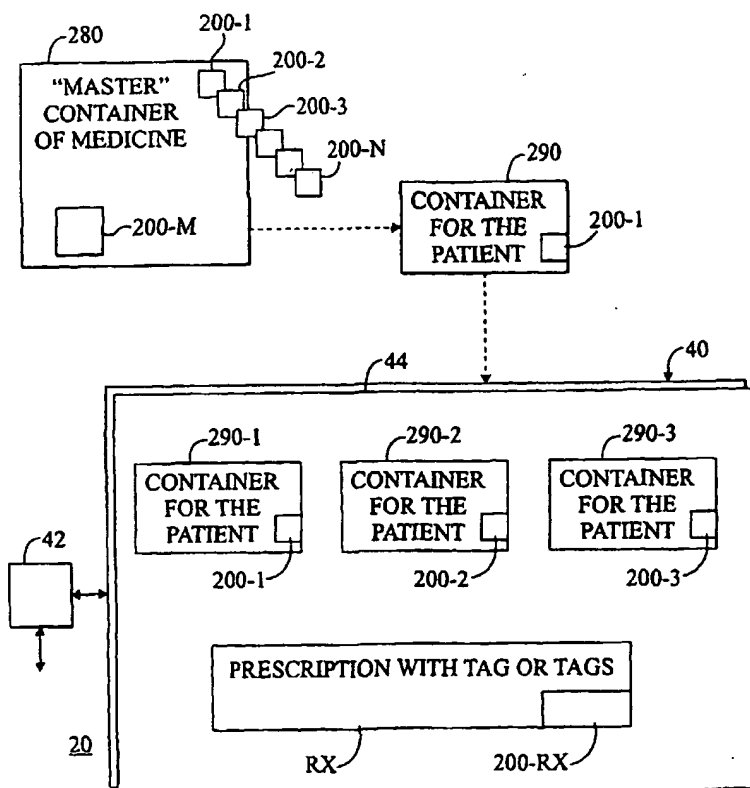
60/239,293	11 October 2000 (11.10.2000)	US
60/239,649	12 October 2000 (12.10.2000)	US
60/240,748	16 October 2000 (16.10.2000)	US
60/243,640	26 October 2000 (26.10.2000)	US
60/245,596	3 November 2000 (03.11.2000)	US
60/248,454	14 November 2000 (14.11.2000)	US
60/260,849	10 January 2001 (10.01.2001)	US

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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: TRACKING SYSTEM AND METHOD EMPLOYING PLURAL SMART TAGS



(57) Abstract: A system and method are useful for tracking two or more objects moving by separate transport paths to a destination and associating the objects at the destination. Object and check smart tags (200-N, 200-RX) are associated respectively with each object (280, 290) to be tracked and with an associated check object (RX). Each smart tag includes at least an electronic memory from which information may be transmitted and/or into which information may be stored. Smart tag control units (reader and/or writer) (42) and antenna arrays (44) along the transport path (40) communicate with the smart tags and/or communicate directly or indirectly with one or more processors that process the information. Object and check smart tags are read and compared for matching the object and check object at the destination.

WO 02/031629 A3



(81) **Designated States (national):** AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW.

(84) **Designated States (regional):** ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

**Declarations under Rule 4.17:**

— as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii)) for the following designations AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG,

KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG)

— as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii)) for all designations  
— of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv)) for US only

**Published:**

— with international search report

**(88) Date of publication of the international search report:**

13 February 2003

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US01/42563

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : G08B 13/14; H04Q 7/00; G07B 15/02; G06F 17/60

US CL : 340/568.1, 572.1, 571, 539; 235/384; 705/28

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 340/568.1, 572.1, 571, 539; 235/384; 705/28

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X,P	US 6,232,877 B1 (ASHWIN) 15 May 2001 (15.05.2001), Fig. 1 and corresponding disclosure.	1-24, 31-42, 49-52 and 54-68
A	US 5,886,634 A (MUHME) 23 March 1999 (23.03.1999), cols. 4-8.	1-68
Y	US 5,272,318 A (GORMAN) 21 December 1993 (21.12.1993), col. 3, lines 26-38; col. 5, line 7 to col. 6, line 14.	68
Y	US 5,401,944 A (BRAVMAN et al.) 28 March 1995 (28.03.1995), Figs. 7-8 and corresponding disclosure.	1-24, 31-42, 49-52 and 54-67
Y	US 6,111,506 A (YAP et al.) 29 August 2000 (29.08.2000), Fig. 8 and col. 17, line 49 to col. 18, line 7.	1-24, 31-42, 49-51 and 56-68
Y	US 5,257,011 A (BEIGEL) 26 October 1993 (26.10.1993), Abstract.	4, 11, 19-20, 37-38, 52, 54-55 and 57
A	US 5,051,565 A (WOLFRAM) 24 September 1991 (24.09.1991), Figs. 1-2 and corresponding disclosure.	1-68
A	US 5,396,218 A (OLAH) 07 March 1995 (07.03.1995), Abstract.	1-68
Y	US 5,650,768 A (ESWARAN) 22 July 1997 (22.07.1997), Fig. 2 and corresponding disclosure	1-24, 31-42, 49-52 and 54-68

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

☐ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:	"T"	later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"X"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
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"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means		
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed		

Date of the actual completion of the international search

23 July 2002 (23.07.2002)

Date of mailing of the international search report

18 SEP 2002

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

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**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

International application No.

PCT/US01/42563

**C. (Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 5,221,831 A (GEISZLER) 22 June 1993 (22.06.1993), Fig. 1 and corresponding disclosure.	5
Y	US 5,661,470 A (KARR) 26 August 1997 (26.08.1997), col. 6, lines 51-58.	6 and 58